¶ Menippus.

¶ Nay ly, I was not dede
But the hell alyue me receyuyd.

¶ Philonides.

¶ what cauſyd the to take the way
Of this incredeble and new Iourney.

¶ Menippus.

Eraſm. ¶ youth therto dyd me
Prouoke and alſo the boldnes.
Pent. ¶ which for the youth alway
Stronger it is in effect.

¶ Philonides.

¶ O thou tragidian I pray the hartely
Stand ſtyll and leue thy verſyfyeng
Spcke and ſhew me open and playnly
what was the cauſe of thy ſtraunge clothyng
And of thy Iourney to hell deſcendyng
Syth it is nother mery Iorney
Nother pleſaunt nor delectable way.

MENIPPVS.

Non: ſed me adhuc viuũ recepit tartarus.

PHILONIDES.

Quenã cauſa tibi fuit nouæ huius atq; incredibilis viæ?

MENIPPVS.

Iuuenta me incitauit, atq; audacia Et pro iuuẽta haud paululũ impotentior.

PHILONIDES.

Siſte o beate Tragica: et ab iãbis deſcendens ſic potius ſimpliciter loquere: quænam hæc veſtis: quæ cauſa tibi itineris inferni fuit: quũ alioqui neq; iucũda, neq; delectabilis ſit via.

calculi: per quos Cerberū nul
lo modo potuerunt effugere. PHI
LO. Quid agis? Noui ne aliquid
apud inferos nostris de rebus de-
cretū est? MENIPPVS. Per Io-
uem: & quidē multa, verum ꝓde-
re non licet: neq; arcana quæ sūt re
leuare: ne quis forte nos apd' Rha
damāthū impietatis accuset. PHI
LO. Nequaquā Menippe per Io-
uem: ne amico sermonem hunc in-
uideas. Nam apud hominem tacē
di gnarum, & initiatū preterea sa-
cris edisseres. MENIPPVS. Du
ra profecto iubes, & neutiquā tuta
verum tui gratia tamen audendū
est.

Escape from hell by no maner way

¶ Philonides.

¶ What sayst / is ther any decrees made in hel
For the actis of vs that in yerth dwell

¶ Menippus.

¶ Ye by god / that many which to be told
Ought not nor the secretis / openyd to be
Lest phappis some men vs accuse wold
To the Judge Rathamāthum of iniquite

¶ Philonides.

¶ No no by god Menippe do not hardely
Disdayn to thy frend this matter to tell
For to a wyse man secret and speyally
In holy orders thou mayst shewit well

¶ Menippus.

¶ Certes thou requyrest me straytly,
Those thyngis which not surely,
Nor wout parell may welbe told
yet at thy request I wylbe so bold

Which to hell alyue went that I [illegible]
The soner dysceyue Aeacus wachmen
And that I [illegible] I [illegible] ment
The bet[illegible]
And th[illegible] passe no[illegible] ddyn
Sone a[illegible] that the day began to spryng
And as we toward the flood shuld go
A gr[illegible] long way then we cam vnto
But he a bote had ordenyd before
Meth and sacryfyce and euery thyng more
That we shuld nede vnto your mystery
And when that all thyngis were redy
We put them in the bote and we also
Borowfully wepyng therin to gan go
And lyke yong chyldern also waylyng lowd
A whyle then there in the flood we rowd
And after that we cam into a wood
And [illegible] the hed of Euphrates the flood

facilius Aeaci custodias fallere[illegible]
atq; nullo prohibente transire:
[illegible] notior t[illegible] admodū i[illegible]
[illegible] missus. [illegible]gitur [illegible] ap-
[illegible] quum n[illegible]men ingressi
[illegible]sū incūb[illegible]. Parata siqui
dem ab illo fuerant: cymba, sacri-
ficia, mulsa, & inid misterium de-
niq; quibuscumq; opus erat. Hęc
postquam ergo [illegible]e prompta erāt
imposuimus: t[illegible]os quoq; anxii
ac vagientium more l[illegible]ryman-
tes ingredimur, atq; al[illegible]ntis per
quidem in fluuio ferin[illegible] leinde
in syluam delati sumus [illegible]acum
quendam in quem Euph[illegible] con
ditur.

o lyram celeberrime correptã
saſſẽ cantu ſtati ſopitus obdor
mit: deinde poſtea q̃ ad lacũ yeni
mus: tranare fere nõ licuit. Iam eti
onuſtũ erat nauigiũ & eiulatu cer
te plenũ. Vulnerati quippe in ea
nauigabant oẽs, hic femur, ille ca
put, ali⁹ alio quopiã mẽbro luxat⁹
vſq; adeo, vt mihi certe ex bello
quopiã adeſſe viderẽtur. At opti
m⁹ Charõ quũ leonis videret exu
uias, eſſe me rat⁹ Herculẽ recepit,
tranſq; vexit libẽs: tum exeũtibus
quoq; nobis mõſtrauit ſemitam.
Sed quoniam iam eramus in tene
bris: precedit quidem Mithrobar
zanes: ego autem a tergo continu⁹
illi comes adhæreo.

But when that my harp takyn had I
Well tewnyd and playd armonyouſly
With that ſown ſodenly rauyſhed was he
And fell a ſlep. But a
To the lake cam/ vnn
So full and ſo laden t
Of howlyng/ for dede men therin were
Some lakkyd the hed/ ſome lakkyd the ere
The thygh was ſtryken of of an other
He lakkyd one member/ he lakkyd a nother
ỳ me thought they cam frõ ſome batteloz feld
But that good Charon when he me beheld
He Judgyd me becauſe of my lyons ſkyn
To be hercules/ wherfoze gladly he toke me in
And caryed vs ouer/ & as we went forth there
He ſhewyd vs the way/ but becauſe we were
In darkenes Methrobarzanes went befoze
And I folowyd ſtyll at his bak euer moze